

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/994,891
Confirmation Number	8056
Filing Date	November 28, 2001
First Named Inventor	Masakazu NISHIKAWA
Art Unit	2651
Examiner Name	Varsha A. KAPADIA
Attorney Docket Number	Q66604

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

RECEIVED

OCT 07 2003

Technology Center 2600

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
<i>AK</i>		EP	0 790 533	A2	8/20/1997	The BOC Group plc	
<i>AK</i>		EP	0 332 784	B1	9/20/1989	Seagate Technology International	
<i>AK</i>		EP	0 915 456	A1	5/12/1999	Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.	
<i>AK</i>		JP	11-025455		1/29/1999	Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.	
<i>AK</i>		JP	10-239923		11/4/1998	Hitachi Ltd.	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		Australian Search Report for SG 200107321-2 dated July 24, 2003	

Examiner Signature	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date Considered	11/14/04
--------------------	--------------------	-----------------	----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.